

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 213674

NODIS

CHEROKEE

EYES ONLY FOR DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY SAUNDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 213674 ACTION JIDDA INFO CAIRO
09 SEPT

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 213674

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

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TAGS: PFOR, XF, SA, US

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT - MESSAGE FOR PRINCE
FAHD AND KING KHALID

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME TO PRINCE

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SAUD FOR PRINCE FAHD AND KING KHALID:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

YOUR MAJESTYGC

NOW THAT PRESIDENT FORD AND I HAVE BEGUN THE PROCESS OF SEEKING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR THE U.S. COMMITMENTS RELEVANT TO LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT, I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF THE CONSIDERATIONS AND CONCERNS WE HAVE IN MIND.

FIRST OF ALL, I WISH TO THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE VERY

CORDIAL MANNER IN WHICH I WAS RECEIVED IN TAIF LAST WEEK AND FOR THE EXCELLENT DISCUSSIONS WHICH WE HAD AT THAT TIME. AS YOU KNOW, IT HAS BEEN OUR CONSTANT CONVICTION

THAT THE CONSTRUCTIVE UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT OF SAUDI ARABIA IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE PRESIDENT AND I PLACE GREAT STORE IN REMAINING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, IN THE FUTURE AS IN THE PAST, REGARDING OUR OWN EFFORTS TO HELP BRING PEACE TO THE REGION.

AS I TOLD YOUR MAJESTY, WE BELIEVE THAT LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT CONSTITUTES A FURTHER SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARD A JUST AND LASTING PEACE FOR ALL THE NATIONS AND PEOPLES OF THE MIDDLE EAST. WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FULLY AWARE THAT THAT AGREEMENT MUST BE FOLLOWED BY EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PROGRESS ON OTHER FRONTS, INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY EFFORTS TO PROMOTE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL. THE PRESIDENT HAS REAFFIRMED OUR INTENTION TO REMAIN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS.

BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL UNDERSTAND THAT THIS PROCESS MUST CONTINUE TO GO FORWARD. WE ARE EMPHASIZING THIS POINT HERE IN OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CONGRESS, AND WE SHALL BE MAKING IT CLEAR IN OUR PUBLIC STATEMENTS. IT IS OUR FIRM BELIEF THAT THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS, OF WHICH
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LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT IS AN IMPORTANT PART, PROVIDES THE BEST CHANCE TO SEE THE MIDDLE EAST TURN FROM A SUCCESSION OF WARS TO THE PROSPECT OF PEACE IN WHICH THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL WILL BE ACCOMMODATED. WE PLACED SO MUCH STRESS ON THE AGREEMENT BECAUSE IT IS OUR CONVICTION THAT IT WOULD OPEN UP NEGOTIATING POSSIBILITIES ON ALL OTHER FRONTS.

AS YOU KNOW, YOUR MAJESTY, WE BELIEVE THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS PURSUED A FAR-SEEING, SOUND AND COURAGEOUS POLICY IN WORKING TOWARD THE CONCLUSION OF LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT. FROM MY MANY DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM, I KNOW PRESIDENT SADAT REALIZED THAT HE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO CRITICISM FROM VARIOUS QUARTERS IF HE PROCEEDED WITH THE AGREEMENT. I CONSIDER IT A MEASURE OF HIS STATURE THAT HE WAS WILLING TO SUBJECT HIMSELF TO SUCH CRITICISM IN THE BROADER BELIEF THAT HE WAS ACTING NOT ONLY IN THE INTERESTS OF EGYPT BUT OF ALL COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN MOVING THE REGION FURTHER ALONG THE PATH TO PEACE. PRESIDENT FORD AND I HAVE GREAT ADMIRATION FOR PRESIDENT SADAT, AND WE INTEND TO GIVE HIM EVERY POSSIBLE SUPPORT. WE ARE AWARE, OF COURSE, OF THE VERY VALUABLE COUNSEL AND CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE THAT YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT HAVE PROVIDED TO PRESIDENT SADAT AND TO EGYPT, AND WE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT YOUR HELP HAS BEEN.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT SOME ELEMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE TAKEN A NEGATIVE VIEW TOWARD LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. I BELIEVE IT SIGNIFICANT THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS BEEN PUTTING OUT MUCH THE SAME LINE. I HOPE YOUR MAJESTY WILL AGREE THAT THE UNITY OF THE ARAB STATES IS THE BEST MEANS TO BUILD ON LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT SO AS TO KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM FOR PEACEFUL PROGRESS.

I HOPE THAT YOUR MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT, IN DISCUSSIONS IT MAY BE HAVING WITH OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENTS, AND ESPECIALLY WITH SYRIA AND JORDAN, WILL EXPRESS ITS POSITIVE VIEW OF LAST WEEK'S AGREEMENT AND EMPHASIZE THE NEED FOR A FORWARD-LOOKING, POSITIVE VIEW. I KNOW OF NO ONE WHO CAN BE MORE INFLUENTIAL THAN YOUR MAJESTY IN
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PROJECTING SUCH A POSITION IN THE ARAB WORLD AT LARGE.

AS ALWAYS, I LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR MAJESTY'S WISE COUNSEL AND POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION ON THESE MATTERS.

WITH WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS,

HENRY A. KISSINGER. END TEXT.
KISSINGER UNQUOTE

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